


DORCHESTER
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Senior Public Health Inspector

for the Year

1967

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DORCHESTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Mr. L.J. BENNETT	the Council)
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	C.B.E., M.C., D.L.

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Medical Officer of Health	K.J. ADAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Univ. Lond.)
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Additional Public Health Inspector	J.C. BUCKNER, M.A.P.H.I. (appointed 1st August, 1967)

D O R C H E S T E R
R U R A L D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

A N N U A L R E P O R T
O F T H E
M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

F O R T H E Y E A R

1967



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GENERAL STATISTICS

	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>
Area in Acres... ..	128,608	128,608	128,608
Resident Population ..	17,760	17,870	18,010
Number of Dwellings...	5,913	6,158	6,485
Rateable Value ..	£480,622	£502,311	£545,749
Sum represented by Penny Rate ...	£1,950	£2,005	£2,240

VITAL STATISTICS

Birth and Death Rates compared with other areas (Births and Deaths per 1,000 population)

	<u>Birth Rate</u>	<u>Death Rate</u>
Dorchester Rural District	16.1 (16.5)	10.1 (10.0)
England and Wales	17.2 (17.7)	11.2 (11.7)
Dorset	15.0 (18.0)	12.3 (10.9)
Dorchester Borough	16.2 (16.8)	9.6 (11.9)

The figures in brackets are those for 1966.

In calculating Birth and Death rates, area comparability factors are issued by the Registrar General to "correct" irregularities in the age and sex structure of the population, and also to take into account any high mortality due to the presence of residential institutions.

BIRTHS AND INFANTILE DEATHS

	Legitimate		Illegitimate		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Live Births ..	122	115	4	6	247
Still Births ..	3	3	1	-	7
Deaths under 1 year	1	-	-	-	1
Deaths under 4 weeks	-	-	-	-	-
Deaths under 1 week	-	-	-	-	-

Infantile Mortality Rate

The infantile mortality rate is the number of deaths among infants of under one year of age per thousand registered live births. There was one infantile death under one year of age and 247 births in the area.

The National rate was 18.3 deaths among infants under one year of age per thousand live births and the Dorset rate was 12.3 deaths. Our figure is too small to work out an accurate comparative rate but the approximate figure compares quite well with the County Infantile mortality rate.

CONTROL OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

Diphtheria: No notifications of Diphtheria have been received in the district for 19 years. Cases continue to occur in England and Wales and six cases were notified in 1967. It is necessary to maintain the high level of artificial immunity in children to prevent Diphtheria carriers returning to a community.

Whooping Cough: Nineteen cases of this disease were notified and many more would have occurred but for the immunisation campaign. Some children get a modified form of the disease when infected many months after vaccination. It is important that babies under the age of 2 years should be protected as the disease is more serious in the very young.

Tetanus: This infection occurs rarely and is not notifiable. I am unaware if cases occurred in 1967. One of the reasons prompting the tetanus vaccination campaign is the difficulty in administering anti-tetanus serum in an emergency. Severe allergic reactions can occur, and if it is being given on a second occasion its protective power does not last so long. If an adult or child has ever received anti-tetanus serum after an injury it is important that a course of active protection with anti-tetanus toxoid is received.

Poliomyelitis: No cases of this disease have been notified for nine years but 19 cases occurred in England and Wales. This again is directly due to the use of oral poliomyelitis vaccine. It is already becoming difficult to think back a decade to the time when a case of poliomyelitis in a village caused so much grief and worry to all parents.

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Vaccination and Immunisation Statistics 1967

Poliomyelitis		Whooping Cough		Diphtheria		Tetanus	
Primary course	Boost-ing dose	Primary course	Boost-ing dose	Primary course	Boost-ing dose	Primary course	Boost-ing dose
211	248	186	140	202	387	224	404

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the above figures.

In judging the state of immunity it must be borne in mind that the district experiences about 250 births per year. Thus well over 75% of children have been immunised. Cause for concern about the presence of diphtheria carriers arises when the figures drop below 70%.

Scarlet Fever: Two cases were notified. This disease is now much less severe than earlier in the Century. It can be tackled fairly easily by modern antibiotics and I suspect that the position has now been reached when it occasionally occurs and remains unrecognised by parents.

Measles: Two hundred and sixty cases of this disease were notified and I am hoping that this is the last occasion that I shall be in a position to report to you such an occurrence. A satisfactory "one shot" attenuated live measles vaccine has now been marketed and early in 1968 we were informed that an anti-measles campaign would start in the Spring.

Measles is a very lowering disease. It may cause encephalitis, is responsible for paving the way to many dangerous secondary infections by other organisms, and brings about a small number of deaths each year nationally.

Scabies: Several cases of scabies occurred in the district in 1966 and early in 1967, articles appeared in the medical press suggesting that there was an increase in the disease nationally. The Council agreed to make the disease notifiable under powers given in Section 147 of the Public Health Act 1936, and formal arrangements for this commenced on 16th November. By the close of the year one case only was notified.

Scabies requires very careful treatment by the patient and unless detailed explanation of this is given, the disease can well progress to a chronic state. Notification also gives me the opportunity to trace back the infection from the original carrier.

Food Poisoning: Six cases were notified embracing two domestic outbreaks but no cause could be found. A minor epidemic of vomiting with some diarrhoea occurred among children at Broadmayne and Buckland Newton, but no food poisoning organisms were isolated from pathological specimens and the history in both villages pointed to no common source of infection.

Paratyphoid: Outbreaks of enteritis among pigs at three farms in the district were traced to the organism *Salmonella cholerae-suis*, by the Divisional Veterinary Officer. This is the old Paratyphoid C organism. It rarely infects humans but when it does find a pathway to a susceptible human host it produces a severe enteric illness which may be fatal despite modern drugs.

On each occasion personnel in charge of infected pigs were warned to maintain high standards of personal hygiene and their family doctors were acquainted with the danger.

Brucellosis or Undulant Fever: Although this disease is not notifiable I was informed of two human cases which had occurred in persons consuming raw milk. Again this disease only seems to attack certain persons who are susceptible. The illness is severe, and prolonged

intermittently, responding slowly to antibiotics. The disease is caused by an organism which also infects cattle.

On these occasions I inform the County Public Health Inspector who is directly responsible for milk sampling, and call upon the farmer or retailer. Later if infected milk is proven it may be necessary to ask that certain cows are removed from the milking herd, or that their milk is heat treated before being consumed. Pasteurisation kills *Brucella abortus* and it should be more widely known by the housewife that bottled milk under the terms of the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963 may bear one of three legends.

"Pasteurised"

"Sterilised"

"Untreated"

The latter term, "Untreated" is used in the sense that the milk has not been heat treated in any way.

Anthrax: Four cattle died of this infection during the year. The disease is only dangerous to humans if the initial infection remains undiagnosed. It is my routine to enquire the names of those persons working at the farm and to inform the family doctors of the circumstances.

Disinfection of the premises is the statutory duty of the Police. The usual source of anthrax infection in this country is imported bone meal but no proof of this was available for these cases.

International Vaccination Certificates:

These certificates for international travel give evidence of vaccination against smallpox or cholera. The local authority stamp certifies that the signature of the issuing doctor is that of a registered medical practitioner known to me. The number of certificates authenticated varies depending upon the amount of smallpox prevalent in other countries as well as our own. In 1967, 256 certificates were issued. In 1966, a year when minor smallpox was about in England and Wales the number of certificates dealt with was 389.

Public Health Laboratory

The Dorchester Public Health Laboratory, under the directorship of Dr. G.H. Tee, continues to give excellent service. Bacteriological advice on the spot is at times most welcome.

CAUSES OF DEATH

						<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
INFECTIOUS DISEASE:	Influenza	...	...	...	...	-	-
	Tuberculosis..	...	...	...	...	2	-
	Other..	...	...	...	...	1	-
RESPIRATORY DISEASE:	Pneumonia	...	...	..	20	30	
	Bronchitis	...	...	..	7	2	
	Other .	...	...	..	1	2	
HEART AND CIRCULATION:	Coronary Disease	...	..	34	14		
	Cerebral haemorrhage	..	16	17			
	Hypertension..	...	..	1	1		
	Other	...	...	..	18	46	
CANCER:	Stomach	...	...	..	3	2	
	Breast	...	...	..	-	7	
	Lung and Bronchus	...	..	10	4		
	Uterus	...	...	..	-	-	
	Leukaemia	...	...	..	1	-	
	Other	...	...	..	7	9	
DIABETES:	...	...	...	...	..	-	1
GASTRIC OR DUODENAL ULCER:	...	...	...	..	-	1	
GASTRITIS, ENTERITIS AND DIARRHOEA:	..	...	..	-	-		
NEPHRITIS AND NEPHROSIS:	...	...	...	..	-	1	
HYPERPLASIA OF PROSTATE:	...	...	...	..	2	-	
CONGENITAL MALFORMATIONS:	...	...	...	..	2	-	
MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS:	...	...	...	..	2	1	
OTHER ACCIDENTS:	...	...	...	..	5	8	
SUICIDE:	...	...	...	..	-	1	
OTHER DEFINED AND ILL-DEFINED CAUSES:	...	..	2	13			
TOTAL:						134	160

CAUSES OF DEATH

A list of the numbers dying from common diseases is meaningless unless compared with national figures. The latest available are those for 1966 which, although referring to deaths in a previous year, demonstrate that the trends of causes of death in the Rural District, except perhaps for bronchitis, are similar to those in England and Wales.

Deaths from various causes England and Wales 1966

							<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Coronary Disease ...	...	...	...	...	..	69,547	45,219	
Cerebral Haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	..	31,743	47,081	
Cancer - Lung ...	...	...	...	...	..	22,610	4,415	
Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	...	..	23,121	8,741	
Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	..	16,439	19,603	
Cancer - Breast ...	...	...	...	...	..	900	9,822	
Cancer - Stomach ...	...	...	...	...	..	7,520	5,653	
All other accidents	...	...	...	...	..	6,734	5,879	
Motor vehicle accidents		...	...	...	..	5,293	2,161	
Cancer - Womb ...	...	...	...	...	..	-	3,950	
Hypertension ...	...	...	...	...	..	3,280	4,935	
Suicide ...	...	...	...	...	..	2,823	2,171	

In the past members have asked me to break down the causes of death so that some idea of the reason for deaths at certain ages could be gained. In such a relatively small population it is difficult to draw useful conclusions from doing this but the following table may be helpful.

The figures refer to deaths occurring in Dorchester Borough and in Dorchester Rural District combined.

Cause of Death	Under 5 yrs.		Under 25 yrs.		Under 50 yrs.		50 - 65 yrs.	
	M.	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Accidents	-	-	2	2	1	-	3	4
Cancer	-	1	-	-	2	3	27	19
Congenital Malformations	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gastric or Duodenal Ulcer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Heart & Circulation	-	-	1	-	10	6	53	32
Infectious Disease	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Renal Disease	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
Respiratory Disease	-	1	2	-	3	2	18	12
Suicide	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-
Other defined & ill-defined Diseases.	1	2	-	-	3	2	-	7
TOTAL	6	6	5	3	20	15	103	75

CARE OF THE ELDERLY

Our waiting list for elderly persons' accommodation on 1st January 1968 was 129. This figure does not necessarily convey an idea of demand because many persons only apply when they feel they have the chance of modern amenities and can actually see a brick structure rising before their eyes in their own village. The lack of amenities in rural living certainly produces crises earlier in the lives of the elderly than in the town. Many good neighbours carry water and bury night soil in the garden for elderly persons, particularly in January and February. Main services enable independence to continue for many years and all our tenants in elderly persons' accommodation with or without warden service have a self-contained dwelling with the key of their own front door.

More dwellings for elderly persons are needed at such centres as Maiden Newton, Puddletown and Chickerell, and more tenants should be encouraged to transfer from the older three bedroomed houses which at present many under occupy. One obstacle to this is the difference in rent between the older council house and the new two bedroomed dwelling which can be dearer. This may well be an argument in favour of building one bedroomed dwellings and self-contained bed/sitting room flats.

Both are popular with the elderly. They cost little to heat and are easy to keep clean. The objection to the inability to put up a guest for the night can be overcome by having guest bedrooms under the general care of the warden.

With help from the Surveyor, I set out below a list of housing for old people in the district, much of which is occupied, some in course of construction and some planned.

Housing for Old People

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Estate</u>	<u>With a Warden</u>	<u>Without a Warden</u>
Broadmayne	Beech Close	8 Bungalows (4 Flats (4 Bungalows	3 Flats
Buckland Newton	Cranes Meadow	-	6 Bungalows
Cattistock	Meadow View		4 Bungalows
	Meadow View Extn.	-	8 Bungalows
Cerne Abbas	Swan Hills		6 Bungalows
Charminster	Cocklands	-	6 Bungalows
	Weir View	-	4 Houses
	Hill View	8 Bungalows	
	Symonds Court	(12 Flats (8 Bungalows	
	Broken Cross	6 Flats	4 Flats
Cheselbourne	New Site		5 Bungalows
Chickerell	Marshallsay Road	18 Bungalows	8 Bungalows
	Marshallsay Court	22 Flats (Flats (Bungalows	
Frampton	North Park		2 Bungalows
Godmanstone	New Site		6 Bungalows
Maiden Newton	Newton Road		2 Bungalows
	Frome View		2 Bungalows
	New Site	11 Flats 8 Bungalows	
Owermoigne	Kit Lane		2 Bungalows
	Combe Way		4 Bungalows
Osmington	Plough Close		4 Bungalows

Housing for Old People (Cont'd)

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Estate</u>	<u>With a Warden</u>	<u>Without a Warden</u>
Piddletrenthide	Wightman's Orchard	(4 Flats (6 Bungalows	3 Flats
Portesham	New Site	-	10 Bungalows
Puddletown	Beech Road	(6 Flats (7 Bungalows	5 Flats 2 Bungalows
	Brymer Road	-	2 Bungalows
Sydling St.	Three Acres		4 Bungalows
Nicholas	Three Acres Extn.	4 Bungalows	
West Knighton	Lewell Way	-	4 Bungalows
West Stafford	Barton Close	-	9 Bungalows
Winterbourne Abbas	West Way	-	4 Flats 2 Bungalows

During the year I paid a great many visits to elderly persons requiring Council accommodation. Health is variable after the age of seventy years, some persons are well able to look after themselves, others can do so if living on the ground floor or with the help of a warden. Occasionally one meets an applicant who is really unable to be self sufficient even with modern amenities. They exist at home only because of a home help and many good neighbours who they know and who have aided them for years. A Council dwelling even with warden service is not necessarily the next correct move.

National Assistance (Amendment) Act 1951

Sometimes I am called upon to visit elderly persons who are living in difficult circumstances and possibly suffering from some medical degenerative condition. There may also be a house in poor repair, no local relatives, no near neighbours or elderly neighbours barely able to look after their own affairs. These persons can sometimes be admitted to an old persons' home or for hospital treatment but occasionally even this is refused. I can see their point of view and think it fair to say that the law allows one to die in one's own home providing proper care and attention is being received.

It was necessary on one occasion to obtain a Magistrate's Order to remove an old person to Damers Hospital. After expiry of the Order at the end of three weeks, the patient was happy to continue in hospital and no application to renew the Order was necessary.

D O R C H E S T E R
R U R A L D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

A N N U A L R E P O R T

O F T H E

S E N I O R P U B L I C H E A L T H I N S P E C T O R

F O R T H E Y E A R

1967

Certain of the statistical and other information in this report is required by various Ministries and is prepared in the form specified by them.

WATER SUPPLIES

Public Supplies

Quantity Supplies from public mains have been satisfactory throughout the year, although there appears to be little margin for additional connections in the Osmington area. Shortages experienced last year in Coryates and Crossways have been remedied, though here again there is little room for further connections.

Quality During the year 80 samples were taken for bacteriological examination from the three Council-owned supplies, the sources of which are boreholes at Forston, Portesham and Maiden Newton. Seven samples only showed minimal contamination, the majority from Maiden Newton supply. The chlorine dosage to this supply was slightly increased, since when no further unsatisfactory samples have been received from this source.

88 such samples were taken from supplies purchased by the Council from other Undertakings. Three of these only proved unsatisfactory, all from the same supply, and the contamination was remedied by the cleansing of a small reservoir.

Seven samples were also taken during the year for determination of residual chlorine.

It will be seen that the public water supplies in the area continue to be of high bacterial quality.

One chemical sample was taken during the year, a copy of which is reproduced below.

No. 1 West Stafford - Source of Supply, Weymouth Waterworks Company

Appearance - Clear, colourless

Reaction - pH 7.2

	<u>Parts per Million</u>
Ammonia (as N)	
Free	0.002
Albuminoid	0.010
Chlorine (as Chlorides)	24.5
equivalent to Sodium Chloride	40
Oxygen absorbed (4 hrs.)	0.24
Nitrogen in Nitrite	Faint trace
Nitrogen in Nitrate	3.8
Total Solids	347
Loss on ignition	5
Appearance on ignition	No charring
Hardness: Temporary	233
Permanent	<u>33</u>
Total	266

Free Chlorine	trace - less than	0.1
Lead and Copper	less than	.1

WATER SUPPLIES - Public Supplies (Cont'd)

The number of dwellings, population and properties in parish order supplied from the public mains are shown in the table below.

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Estimated Population (1961 Census)</u>	<u>No. of dwellings (incl moveable dwellings)</u>	<u>Properties Supplied from the public mains</u>
ABBOTSBURY	470	187	155
ALTON PANCRAS	122	45	37
ATHELHAMPTON	48	14	13
BINCOMBE	100	37	35
BRADFORD PEVERELL	301	110	76
BROADMAYNE	598	268	268
BUCKLAND NEWTON	470	188	148
BURLESTON	39	9	9
CATTISTOCK	504	158	121
CERNE ABBAS	513	197	178
CHARMINSTER	2134	467	433
CHESELBOURNE	206	77	31
CHICKERELL	2299	1024	1023
CHILFROME	60	18	7
DEWLISH	220	85	44
FLEET	100	32	32
FRAMPTON	367	133	98
FROME ST. QUINTIN	129	46	28
FROME VAUCHURCH	143	60	60
GODMANSTONE	121	39	39
LANGTON HERRING	149	55	54
LONG BREDY	208	71	25
MAIDEN NEWTON	680	253	231
MELCOMBE HORSEY	174	52	27
MINTERNE MAGNA	217	73	23
NETHER CERNE	33	15	15
OSMINGTON	539	192	145
OWERMOIGNE	599	322	298
PIDDLEHINTON	616	90	82
PIDDLETRENTHIDE	540	182	146
PORTESHAM	412	169	139
POXWELL	54	18	16
PUDDLETOWN	795	365	313
STINSFORD	329	108	35
STRATTON	273	111	99
SYDLING ST. NICHOLAS	338	124	118
TINCLETON	176	42	35
TOLLER PORCORUM	225	84	43
TOLPUDDLE	203	98	71
WARMWELL	210	75	70
WATERCOMBE	23	10	10
WEST KNIGHTON	423	141	141
WEST STAFFORD	157	75	72
WHITCOMBE	50	12	11
WINTERBOURNE ABBAS	145	48	39
WINTERBORNE CAME	67	22	21
WINTERBORNE HERRINGSTON	34	11	10
WINTERBORNE MONKTON	128	29	10

WATER SUPPLIES - Public Supplies (Cont'd)

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Estimated Population (1961 Census)</u>	<u>No. of dwellings (incl moveable dwellings)</u>	<u>Properties Supplied from the public mains</u>
WINTERBORNE ST. MARTIN	510	196	167
WINTERBOURNE STEEPLETON	171	59	37
WOODSFORD	181	79	77

Figures are not yet available of those properties which are supplied by means of standpipes.

Private Supplies

Quantity In one case only has a private supply serving 3 cottages been found to be insufficient. Steps are being taken to secure the provision of a main supply to each of the premises.

Quality Private supplies vary from those supplying whole villages to those supplying small communities and individual houses. A total of 159 samples were taken during the year for bacteriological examination from 57 supplies and of these 100 were satisfactory, 16 suspect and 43 unsatisfactory. Two of the larger supplies have given cause for concern and the owners have now undertaken works of improvement which should result in a satisfactory quality in each case. In all cases where reports were other than satisfactory, sources, and where necessary means of storage and distribution, have been investigated and recommendations made for removal of the causes of pollution.

As a result 3 sources have since proved satisfactory on subsequent sampling.

There are without doubt many supplies serving small groups of houses and individual properties of which the department has no knowledge and it is hoped that time will permit these to be recorded and investigated at an early date.

One chemical sample has been taken, the result of which is reproduced below.

Ilsington Estate, Puddletown

Appearance - Clear and bright

Reaction - pH 7.15

	<u>Parts per Million</u>
Ammonia (as N)	
Free	0.008
Albuminoid	0.018
Chlorine (as Chloride)	19
equivalent to Sodium Chloride	31
Oxygen absorbed (4 hrs)	0.11
Nitrogen in Nitrite	absent
Nitrogen in Nitrate	3.6
Total Solids	304
Loss on ignition	13
Appearance on ignition	Slight charring
Total Hardness	246

WATER SUPPLIES (Cont'd)

Lead in Drinking Water

In November work was published by the Medical Research Council Social Medicine Unit concerning the concentration of lead in drinking water, whereby it was found that some waters were more plumbo-solvent than had previously been thought. Accordingly we were advised by the Chief Medical Officer, Ministry of Health, that the amount of lead in main supplies should be investigated. Samples of drinking water which had lain overnight in lead service pipes were sent for analysis with the following results:-

	<u>Forston P.S.</u>	<u>Maiden Newton</u>	<u>Portesham</u>	<u>Broadmayne</u>
Appearance	Clear and colourless		No sediment (all samples)	
Reaction pH	7.15	7.1	7.1	7.15
	<u>P a r t s p e r M i l l i o n</u>			
Lead Pb	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.05

Recommended maximum standards by the World Health Organisation are as follows:-

International Standards for drinking water	0.05 p.p.m.
European Standards for drinking water (after 16 hours contact in lead pipe)	0.3 p.p.m.

The conclusion to be arrived at is that all our sources of supply are mildly plumbo-solvent, but that water drawn from those premises with lead service pipes is unlikely to be a health hazard.

Investigation of Supplies

One of the duties imposed upon a Sanitary Authority by the Public Health Act, 1936, is that of taking "from time to time such steps as may be necessary for ascertaining the sufficiency and wholesomeness of the water supplies within their district". This duty will of course remain when the Council's supplies are placed in the hands of others, and accordingly the department will continue its surveillance of public as well as private supplies in these respects.

During the year 51 inspections have been carried out in respect of water supplies.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

During the year the Joint Sewerage Scheme for the villages of Abbotsbury and Portesham was completed and a joint scheme for the villages of Bradford Peverell and Stratton submitted to the Minister. Thus ~~eight~~^{ten} of the larger villages in the District and part of Crossways are now sewered and a scheme for two villages is well in hand. However a considerable part of the District remains to be sewered and in order to achieve a realistic order of priority for future sewerage schemes the Council has required the department to survey drainage circumstances in unsewered areas. This work is now proceeding and during the year 1023 inspections have been made by your officers in connection with various drainage investigations.

22 complaints concerning defective drainage have been received and investigated. A total of 25 informal and 2 formal notices have been served and improvements achieved in nearly all cases. Legal proceedings were successfully taken in one case where found necessary. Disposal of farm effluent is becoming an increasing problem in some parts of the district where obsolete drainage systems cannot cope with the products of rapidly changing farm methods or where local topography makes satisfactory drainage extremely difficult or expensive. Advice to farmers and liaison with the officers of the Avon and Dorset Water Board have achieved improvements but there remains much yet to be done in this field.

The year saw the acquisition by the Council, by agreement with the owners, of the sewage disposal installation of a large holiday camp in the District. The effluent disposal from this camp has been a source of concern to this Department for some years and it is most gratifying to know that this matter is now in the Council's full control.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The Council's first Public Conveniences were completed this year in the village of Cerne Abbas, and it is obvious from the many complimentary remarks received or overheard that both their provision and high standard are much appreciated. The Council is to be complimented too on the speedy acquisition of a mobile convenience which was sited throughout the summer at the popular coastal hamlet of Osmington Mills, where its heavy use testified to its great need there. Provision has been made for a permanent convenience at Osmington Mills next year thereby releasing the mobile convenience for use elsewhere, the most obvious need being at the nearby coastal hamlet of Ringstead.

Work on the permanent convenience at Abbotsbury has been commenced this year, and this will no doubt be completed for use by the influx of visitors this coming summer.

FOOD PREMISES AND FOOD INSPECTION

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

The following premises in the district are subject to the above Regulations:-

	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Fitted to Comply with Reg. 16*</u>	<u>To which Reg. 19+ Applies</u>	<u>Fitted Comply with Reg. 19</u>
Manufacturers & Processors	4	4	4	4
Bakehouses	6	5	6	6
	—	—	—	—
WHOLESALE PREMISES	10	9	10	10
	—	—	—	—
Butchers	7	6	7	7
Grocers, Provision Merchants & General Shops	58	52	55	55
	—	—	—	—
RETAIL PREMISES	65	58	62	62
	—	—	—	—
Hotels, Public Houses & Guest Houses	59	57	59	59
School Canteens	22	22	22	22
Cafes	11	11	11	11
Canteens, Snack Bars & Kiosks	16	16	16	16
	—	—	—	—
CATERING PREMISES	108	106	108	108
	—	—	—	—

*Regulation 16 relates to the provision of personal washing facilities and +Regulation 19 to the provision of facilities for the washing of equipment and food.

137 visits and inspections of food premises were made during the year and 9 informal notices served as a result of which alterations and improvements have been carried out at 4 premises.

Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966

These Regulations, which lay down requirements as to food hygiene in respect of markets, stalls and delivery vehicles, came into operation on the 1st January, 1967. Mobile shops and delivery vehicles are not easily encountered until their regular routes are known, but such vehicles as have so far been inspected indicate that hygiene standards in many cases leave much to be desired, and there is considerable work for the Department to do in this direction. 3 informal notices were served during the year.

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTION

Meat Inspection - Statistics 1967

	Cattle Other Than Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Numbers Killed	823	752	387	2875	8597	13434
Numbers Inspected	823	752	387	2875	8597	13434
<u>All Diseases Except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis</u>						
Whole Carcasses Condemned	1	19	12	14	10	56
Carcasses of which parts or organs were condemned	186	286	1	261	1374	2018
Percentage of number inspected affected with diseases other than T.B. or Cysticercosis	22.72	40.55	3.35	9.56	16.09	15.43
<u>Tuberculosis Only</u>						
Whole Carcasses Condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	162	162
Percentage of number inspected affected with T.B.	-	-	-	-	1.88	1.20
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3	2	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration	3	2	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Weight of Meat Condemned - 9 tons. 18 cwts. 1 qr. 26 lbs.						

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTION - Meat Inspection (Cont'd)

At the end of March the larger of the three slaughterhouses in the district closed down, thus considerably reducing meat inspection duties. 100% inspection has been maintained at the remaining slaughterhouses of which one is private and the other is attached to Herrison Hospital.

The success of the Tuberculosis Eradication Scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, is reflected in the above figures for cattle, and one wonders whether similar results could now be achieved in respect of Fascioliasis (liver fluke) which accounts for the majority of abnormalities recorded in cattle and sheep, and which is undoubtedly the cause of great economic loss.

Cysticercosis is still occasionally encountered, thus making necessary the continuation of the inspection procedure for this condition.

Once again I must record the appreciation of the Council's Officers for the willing assistance of Dr. Tee and his staff at the County Pathological Laboratory when found necessary.

511 visits to the slaughterhouses were made during the year.

Knackers Yards

There is one Knackers Yard in the District, which is inspected and in respect of which an informal notice was served and has been complied with.

Poultry Processing

There are no poultry processing establishments in the District.

Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

All milk producers are licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Dairies other than farm dairies are registered by District Councils. There are two in this area.

Dealers (Distributors) are also registered by District Councils. There are 28 on this Council's register.

Licences for the sale of Designated Milks are issued by the Food and Drugs Authority which for this area is the Dorset County Council. Sampling is also done by the Food and Drugs Authority, and the results notified to the Medical Officer of Health. Consequently no routine milk samples are taken by this Department. 254 samples were taken from Dealers by the County Council.

Ice-Cream - Food and Drugs Act, 1955 - Section 16

Premises registered

For Manufacturers	Nil
For Storage and/or sale (pre-packed)	76

25 visits to ice-cream premises were made, but no action was found to be necessary in respect of the handling of ice-cream.

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTION (Cont'd)

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the District and no samples of liquid egg have been submitted to the Alpha-Amylase test.

Food Condemnation

The surrender has been accepted during the year of the following foodstuffs:-

Meat (other than from slaughterhouses)	3 cwt. 64 lbs.
Canned meats	15 lbs.
Other canned foods	1 cwt. 39 lbs.

HOUSING

(1) Number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation;	13
(2) Number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers;	22
(3) Number of representations made to the local authority with a view to (a) the serving of notices requiring the execution of works or (b) the making of demolition or closing orders;	2
(4) Number of informal notices served requiring the execution of works;	9
(5) Number of houses which were remedied fit after service of formal notices;	1
(6) Number of demolition or closing orders made;	2
(7) Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under Section 16(4) of the Housing Act, 1957;	1
(8) Number of houses demolished.	5

During the year a total of 321 inspections and visits were made in respect of duties under the Housing Acts and 64 under the Public Health Acts in connection with housing. 19 complaints concerning unsatisfactory housing conditions were received and dealt with.

The relationship between sewerage schemes and housing improvement is an obvious one. Owners of sub-standard houses are understandably unwilling to proceed with the type of improvements which qualify for Grants at a time when sewerage schemes are being considered, and conversely a considerable impetus to housing improvement is given in an area once a sewer is provided. The ensuing year should see improvements to many properties in Abbotsbury and Portesham now that the sewerage scheme for these villages is completed.

Common Lodging Houses - Public Health Act, 1936

There are no Common Lodging Houses, as defined in Section 235, within the Council's District.

LAND CHARGES ACT, 1925 AS AMENDED BY THE
LAW OF PROPERTY (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1926

367 searches were received during the year for observations on properties.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

(1) Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

There are licensed sites in the area for 1,249 residential, holiday and individual caravans as follows:-

<u>Site</u>	<u>Number of Caravans</u>	
	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Holiday</u>
Cattistock	-	15
Chickerell	36	-
Chickerell	36	-
Chickerell	22	-
Chickerell	-	44
Chickerell	-	95
Chickerell	-	655
Osmington	-	35
Osmington	-	20
Osmington	-	40
Osmington	2	76
Ringstead	-	30
Warmwell	40	55
Winterborne St. Martin	12	8
Sites for individual vans	21	7
	—	—
	169	1080
	—	—

In addition there are three sites occupied by the Caravan Club of Great Britain which are exempt from licensing.

(2) Public Health Act, 1936 - Section 269

There are two licensed tented sites in the area, one in Chickerell and one in Fleet, each for 100 tents. Both are privately owned.

I have included caravans and tents under the one heading because in an attractive coastal area such as this their use for holiday purposes is extensive and presents serious public health problems unless adequate licensed sites are provided for them. It is clear that such sites are far from adequate in this district as is evidenced by an estimated 1,600 tents and a large but unknown number of transit caravans which are in the coastal area of the district daily at the peak holiday period. In terms of temporary additional population this is approximately 6,000 persons. Licensed sites

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS - Public Health Act, 1936 - Section 269 (Cont'd)

exist for 200 tents only and virtually no provision is made for transit caravans, with the inevitable consequence that thousands of holiday makers are accommodated on unlicensed sites providing inferior amenities and caravaners are driven to use roadside verges and lay-bys for overnight stops. The public health hazards in such a situation are obvious and a severe strain is put on the department's staff each summer as a result.

Tenting and caravanning is a most popular form of holiday making which appears to attract more devotees every year. It cannot be stopped and in my opinion should not be discouraged but it should be properly catered for by providing facilities and services of the right standard. This can be done by local authorities putting as few obstacles as possible in the way of private enterprise in the provision of licensed sites and in the widespread provision of licensed sites by local authorities themselves.

As far as this Council is concerned the parishes mostly affected are the coastal ones of Osmington, Chickerell and Fleet, with Owermoigne, Langton Herring and Abbotsbury affected to a lesser degree. The whole of this area, with the exception of parts of Chickerell, is designated as being of outstanding natural beauty and it has been argued that it is already disfigured by too many licensed caravans and tented sites. The fact remains however that caravaners and campers will continue to converge on the area each year and the choice lies between an uncontrolled annual blight of caravans and tents parked and pitched in all manner of unsuitable and unsightly places and the provision of properly sited and organised camping and caravan sites supported by an Article 4 Direction of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947 prohibiting the use of unlicensed sites.

154 inspections of caravan and tented sites have been made during the year resulting in the service of 19 informal notices, and much has been achieved in the maintenance of a satisfactory standard on both licensed and unlicensed sites.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS, 1936 & 1961 -
NUISANCES

55 complaints concerning a wide variety of nuisances have been received and investigated requiring 288 visits and inspections. As a result 18 informal and 2 formal notices were served and have been complied with. Cause for complaint was found to arise from such differing causes as the frequent conveyance of dead animals through a village street to the tipping in the summer without notice to the Council of large quantities of whey from a cheese factory into a pit used by the Council for the disposal of contents of the cesspool emptying machine. It is pleasing to note that the number of seasonal complaints concerning the discharge of silage liquor into watercourses is decreasing annually as a result of the growing awareness of farmers to the very offensive nature of this liquor coupled with the results of work done in this direction by this Department and by the Officer of the Avon and Dorset River Authority. "Wilting" of the silage crop, i.e. not harvesting on the same day as cutting, is a system which considerably reduces silage liquor and from the point of view of liquor disposal has much to commend it.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

Two complaints were received and investigated. One, arising from the intermittent use of a grain crusher was found to not warrant formal action. An informal approach to the farmer concerned did, however, secure some improvement. The other concerned the use of fans at newly constructed broiler houses and thorough investigations gave no grounds for action under the Act.

PEST CONTROL

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Treatments under the above Act have continued to be carried out by the Council's two Rodent Operatives. Their work included the investigation of 466 complaints, routine survey of the District throughout the year, treatments entailed by 44 contracts, 14 paid single courses of treatment, and the annual treatment of the Council's sewers.

It is the Council's policy that the service under the Act should be free of charge when carried out on domestic premises and chargeable on business premises and farms.

Two informal notices have been served, both of which were complied with.

The work carried out by the Rodent Operatives is summarised below:-

	<u>Type of Property</u>	
	<u>Non Agricultural</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
Properties other than Sewers		
1. Number of properties in district	7379	527
2. a Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	436	30
b Number infested by (i) Rats	390	29
(ii) Mice	46	1
3. a Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	2412	252
b Number infested by (i) Rats	330	124
(ii) Mice	17	-

Rodent Control Contracts

Annual contracts have been made in respect of 44 farms and other premises. This is an increase of 14 on the previous year, their total value being £647. 5s. 6d. These arrangements with farmers play an important part in rodent control in the District, since farms so often provide conditions most suitable for the existence and breeding of rodents. Accordingly efforts are continually being made to increase the number of contracts, with some success.

PEST CONTROL (Cont'd)

Single Courses of Treatment

14 courses were carried out during the year on farms and business premises. This work is done on a cost plus basis.

Sewers

During the year all public sewers in the District were test baited for rat infestation and no traces of infestation were found. The results of the tests were reported to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Other Pests

A few treatments have been carried out on domestic premises in respect of flies, cockroaches and silverfish and two unusual complaints of stoats and pipistrelle bats (approximately 200 in a roof) were also dealt with.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Kerbside Collection

1967 saw the publication of the Report of the Working Party on Refuse Storage and Collection. Briefly this severely criticises the systems of fortnightly and kerbside collections, the skip method of back door collections, and restrictions imposed by some authorities on the quantity and type of refuse they were prepared to collect. It recommends the supply of refuse containers by the local authority and gives its approval only to the paper sack system and the Continental dustless loading method.

It is clear that improvements in this area will have to be introduced by stages. Thus, although during the year the fortnightly kerbside collection has continued to be operated, in November the Council authorised a weekly kerbside collection to be commenced with effect from 1st April, 1968, and an order for the extra collection vehicle this necessitates was placed - an important step towards an improved service.

Restrictions imposed over many weeks by the Foot and Mouth Disease epidemic created problems of collection in such a rural area as this, but wholehearted co-operation was forthcoming from the residents affected and the service was maintained throughout.

Several extensions to the route have been approved during the year bringing the collection service to an additional 54 dwellings and 12 light industrial premises. 8 informal notices concerning refuse have been served 7 of which have been complied with.

Back Door Collections

The Council operates this service whenever requested in the case of persons who are infirm or over the age of 65, provided there is no able bodied person living in the same house. During the year 22 additional persons have taken advantage of the scheme.

Litter

Collection is made from Dorset County Council litter bins on classified roads, for which a charge is made, and this Council has maintained its own litter bins on unclassified roads, and beauty spots. Three very large accumulations of litter have been moved during the year and in two cases the co-operation of the land owners obtained in taking measures to prevent

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL - Litter (Cont'd)

further tipping. The indiscriminate depositing of litter continues to be an ever increasing problem and the "Anti Litter Week" in July appeared to have little effect in this District.

Early in the year the policy was adopted of leaving the Council's tips permanently open with a view to encouraging the proper disposal of unwanted refuse, and this has proved to be worth while.

Disposal

This is achieved by "Controlled Tipping" principally in pits at Warmwell and Cattistock. A B85 International Loader owned by the Council is used to keep both tips in good order. Refuse from a part of the Southern area of the District is more economically disposed of at the Weymouth Corporation Tip, by arrangement, at 10/- per load.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Factory premises registered at the commencement of 1967	106
Premises added to the Register during the year	5
Premises removed from the Register during the year	9
Number of registered factory premises at the end of 1967	102

1. ~~Ins~~pections for the purposes of provisions as to health

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspec- tions (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	101	36	2	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	102	38	2	-

FACTORIES ACT, 1961 (Cont'd)

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient		-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	-	-	-	-	-

FACTORIES ACT, 1961 (Cont'd)

Outwork (Sections 133 and 134)

	Section 133			Section 134		
Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
<u>Wearing Apparel</u>						
Making etc.	2	-	-	-	-	-
Cleaning and Washing	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nets, other than wire nets	26	-	-	-	-	-

Considerable development is now occurring on the Light Industrial Estate at Chickerell and it is anticipated that in the near future there will be several additions to the register as a result.

38 visits were made to factories and it was found that the general standard was reasonably good.

Registrations and Inspections and Analysis of Persons Employed

Class of premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving one or more general inspections during the year	No. of persons employed
Offices	1	10	1	36
Retail Shops	2	29	9	130
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	1	1	14
Catering establishments open to the public	-	15	1	72
Canteens	-	-	-	-
Fuel storage depots	-	1	1	3
TOTALS	3	56	13	255
Total Males				75
Total Females				180

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963 (Cont'd)

Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises - 46

As a result of inspections 9 contraventions of the Act were found, as follows:-

Inadequate washing facilities	1
Lack of hot water supply	1
Inadequate artificial lighting	4
Unclean premises	1
Lack of thermometer	1
No abstract of the Act	1

Informal notices were served where contraventions were found and the matters have been remedied or put in hand.

No accidents have this year been reported to the Local Authority.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 50

The burial of one person was arranged under the above-mentioned Act.

